

**TOWN OF MERRILLVILLE
TOWN COUNCIL AGENDA (AMENDED)
JUNE 23, 2020
6:30 P.M.**

CALL TO ORDER: President Bella called the meeting or order at 6:37 p.m.

INVOCATION

Given by Pastor Bob

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL: Roll Call taken by Madam Clerk Treasurer Kelly White Gibson, Present were Councilman Hardaway, Councilman Minchuk, Councilwoman Uzelac, Councilman Pettit, Vice President White, and President Bella. There were (6) Council members present. Councilman Spann is absent at roll call. Councilman Spann arrives to meeting later.

PETITIONS, COMMUNICATIONS, ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS AND REMONSTRATIONS

Amendment to Collective Bargaining Agreement between the Town of Merrillville, Lake County, Indiana and the Fraternal Order of Police Lodge #168. Amendment presented by Council President Bella. There was no discussion. Motion to approve amendment was made by Councilman Minchuk, seconded by Councilwoman Uzelac. Motion to approve carried with a 6-0 Voice vote. Councilman Spann absent.

CONSENT AGENDA

Accts. Payable Register Voucher Approval for June 23, 2020

Motion to approve accounts payable voucher was made by Councilwoman Uzelac, seconded by Councilman Pettit. There was no discussion. Motion to approve carried with a 6-0 voice vote. Councilman Spann absent.

Approval of Town Council Meeting Minutes of June 9, 2020

There were no minutes to present. Minutes from June 9th are tabled until next Town Council meeting on July 14th 2020.

STANDING COMMITTEES

BUDGET & FINANCE- WHITE- Vice President White stated that he needs a "Budget Calendar." Councilman White also requested a meeting to be set with Town Manager Patrick Reardon & Public Works Director Kevin Markle.

PUBLIC WORKS- Minchuk – There was no report.

COUNCIL AFFAIRS – Uzelac- There was no report, we just had the meeting for nominating Police Chief Luther Wiley Cuttino.

PERSONNEL POLICY & EMPLOYEE BENEFITS- Uzelac- There was no report.

PUBLIC SAFETY- Minchuk- There was no report.

PARKS & RECREATION- Uzelac- There was no report.

ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS- White- Vice President White stated that he needs COVID-19 Test results. We need to move the time for testing. Vice President White stated we should test wastewater in the future. He also wants to buy a clorox machine for spraying down the building.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT – Pettit- Councilman Pettit stated there was an RDC meeting regarding 73rd Ave. demolition and the Fieldhouse project after the Town Council meeting.

UTILITY LIAISONS- Spann- There was no report

ABANDONED PROPERTIES- Vice President White stated the Marathon Station at 57th and Harrison. Councilman White said the building on 61st Ave. has variation to have tank removal. At 61st Plaza we have had dumping behind the building, a lot needs to be done to clean that up. Referral was made to Town Attorney Joe Svetanoff for further investigation. Steven King said that Monday the 29th at 10:00 a.m. we will be getting proposals for the demolition of the Carriage House.

TOWN IDENTITY & BEAUTIFICATION-

Councilwoman Uzelac stated that there will be a meeting in July. Vice President White stated that the Town needs to replant flowers in front of the Town Hall.

COMMUNITY & RECREATION CENTER –

Councilman Minchuk & Councilman Pettit stated that the Merrillville Community Center colors are Regal Blue. Also, one of the contractors stated they will begin pouring the floors at the Community Center tomorrow.

DEPARTMENT DIRECTORS REPORT- Parks Director Jan Orlich reported that they will be having a blood drive at Pruzin Center for the Red Cross. Please go on line to register. There will also be free antibody testing available.

Town Engineer Steve King gave report on 93rd Ave, Community Crossing, and Taft Street projects. Information has been posted on social media as well as the Town's Website. Mr. King also reported on the Fieldhouse project.

Planning & Building Director Shelia Shine gives reports on upcoming BZA actions and meetings.

Public Works Director Kevin Markel gives his report on the tree branch removal progress and grass cutting. Kevin also mentions that the branch removal program will be stopped. He plans to set up a meeting with Public Works to discuss further.

GENERAL ORDERS

Steven King announced that Walsh & Kelly will be starting work from 93rd Ave. to Taft St. There will be lane closures and minor delays. This will be going on for a few months.

ORDINANCES

FIRST READINGS

There were no first readings

SECOND READINGS

Ordinance 20-10 (Discussion, Public Comment and Roll Call Vote)

An Ordinance amending Ordinance Nos. 72-15; 87-22; and 88-, and repealing all Town Code sections and Ordinances, or parts thereof, in conflict with. Councilwoman Uzelac made a motion to approve, motion was seconded by Councilman Minchuk. There was no discussion or public comment. Motion carried with a 7-0 voice vote. Councilman Spann is now present.

RESOLUTIONS:

Resolution 20-20 (Discussion and Voice Vote)

A Resolution of the Town of Merrillville, Lake County, Indiana, transferring certain monies of the 2020 Budget within the General Fund. Councilman Pettit made a motion to approve, motion was seconded by Councilwoman Uzelac. There was no discussion. Motion carried with a 7-0 voice vote. Councilman Spann is now present.

BZA ACTIONS

There were no BZA actions

OLD BUSINESS

There was no old Business

NEW BUSINESS

Merrillville Police Department Chief Cuttino commented on the Protests held over the weekend. Mostly positively Chief Cuttino spoke regarding the 1 vs. 2 Amendment. Chief Cuttino thanked his men as well as City and State Police Departments. He recognized Vice President White and Town Manager Reardon. Councilman Pettit requests that the Town support sponsorships for Merrillville Football Golf Outing (\$250), Andrean VB Box Sponsorship (\$250), as well as Crossroads Chamber of Commerce Golf outing sponsorship (\$600). Motion was made by Councilman Pettit, seconded by Councilwoman Uzelac. Motion passed with 7-0 voice vote. Councilman Spann is now present.

PUBLIC COMMENT

A resident mentioned an issue with a tree at 3120 W. 75th Pl. Public Works department said they will go out and investigate.


A Merrillville Lakes resident extended his thanks to the Town Council for the work being done at the apartments. The new management is great!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next Town Council Meeting will be on July 14th at 6:30 p.m.
Planning Commission July 21st.

ADJOURNMENT

Councilwoman Uzelac made the motion to adjourn, motion was seconded by Councilman Pettit. There was no discussion. Motion to adjourn carries with a 7-0 voice vote. Meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m.


Rick Bella, President
Kelly White Gibson, Clerk-Treasurer